

STORMS

(Continued from Page One)

NOAA weather radio to notify them of warnings when they are inside, or he said they should pay close attention to local media for up-to-date weather information.

Based on the information his office had received by Sunday evening, Tallas said the county experienced downed power lines, trees across roads in some areas, as well as, a few reports of trees hitting homes. He also said there were some reports of damage to barns and homes.

"Fortunately, no fatalities and no serious injuries were reported," Tallas said.

He said it appears the northern part of the county was the hardest hit in regards to the reported damage.

Also, Tallas said he received information Monday that forecasters from the National Weather Service (NWS) in Birmingham visited the affected areas in the county and determined a tornado classified as an EF-1 was responsible for at least a portion of the damage. (EF-1 means the three-second wind gusts of the tornado were between 86-110 mph.)

Tallas said forecasters from Tallahassee were supposed to visit the area on Tuesday.

Ironically, as the stormy weather affected Coffee County and a large portion of the State of Alabama on Sunday, it was also the start of Severe Weather Awareness Week (Feb. 17-22, 2008) for the state.



This pine tree was snapped into Sunday afternoon, Feb. 17, by high winds from the storms that moved through Coffee County.



Coffee County resident Jerald Spear said his home, located on County Road 205, was damaged by a tree that fell on the roof last Sunday, Feb. 17, during the stormy weather. Spear said the weather got so bad that he put his wife and nephew in the hallway. He said his son lives next door and saw a "funnel cloud" pass over. Coffee County EMA director John Tallas said this week that forecasters from the National Weather Service have determined at least one small tornado affected Coffee County during Sunday's storms. Spear remained positive on Monday morning of this week saying, "I've got insurance. As long as my family is okay the house can be fixed."



A home on Lee Street in Elba also received damage from a tree during last Sunday's stormy weather. Signs of where the tree fell remained evident by mid-morning Monday, Feb. 18, but the tree itself has already been removed.



This pine tree was uprooted by high winds Sunday, Feb. 17, as stormy weather passed through the area. A large portion of the state was affected by severe weather on the first day of Severe Weather Awareness Week (Feb. 17-22, 2008) in the State of Alabama.

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REMARKS

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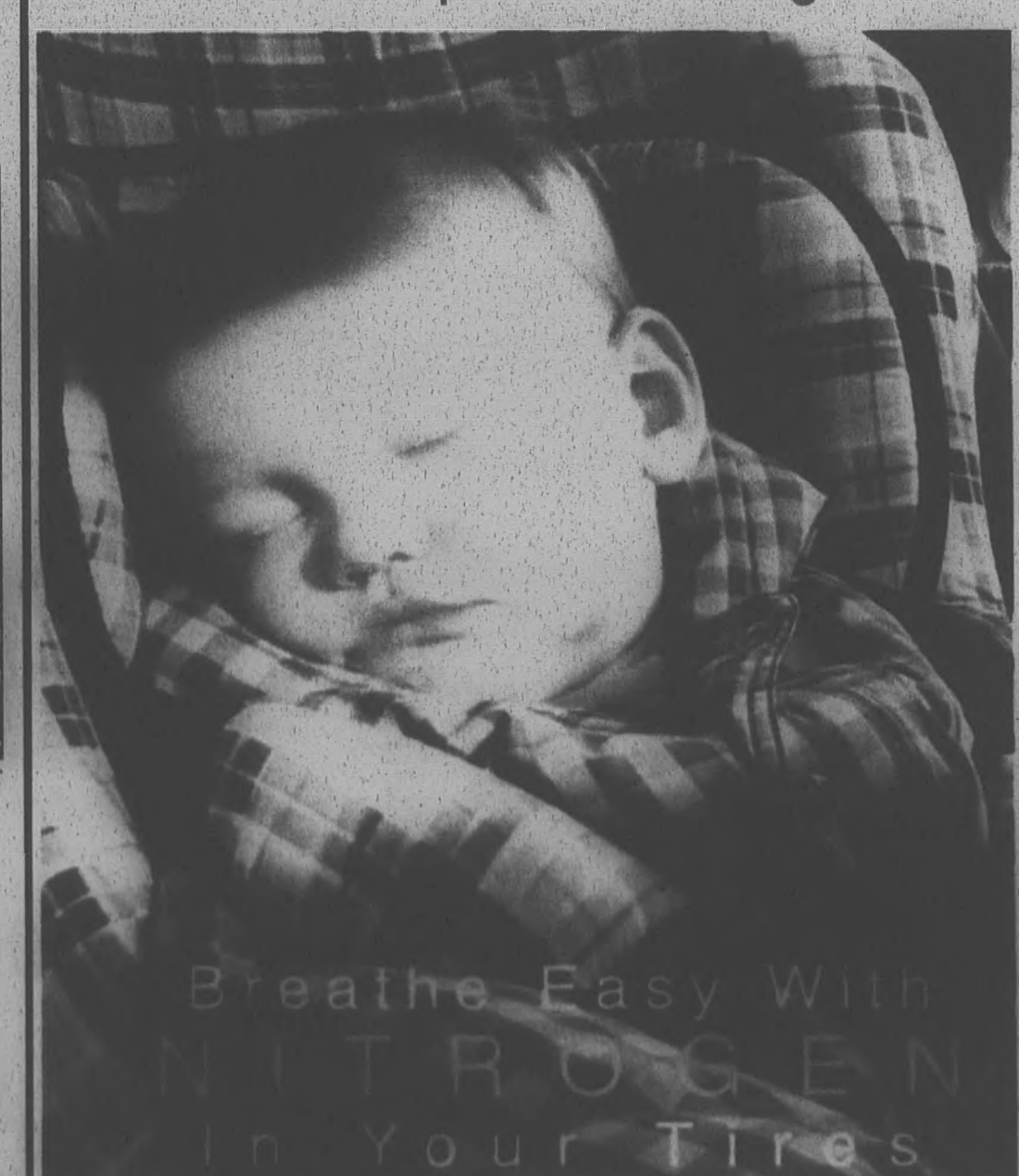
EMERGENCY PERSONNEL RESPONDED to the scene of an accident Monday afternoon, Feb. 18, on County Road 404 near Kelley Foods of Alabama. Dispatchers at the Elba Police Department received an emergency call indicating a log truck had overturned in the road. Upon arrival, officials found the truck on its side with a load of logs dumped on the side of the road. During the crash, the truck also knocked down a nearby power pole. Reportedly, the driver of the log truck escaped the accident with only minor injuries including several scrapes and cuts. He was transported by Coffee County EMS to Elba General Hospital for treatment. While officials investigated the accident and cleared the wreckage, the road was shut down to traffic for quite some time. Also responding to the scene were officials with the Elba Police Department, Elba Volunteer Fire Department and the Alabama State Troopers.



The wrecked log truck Monday on County Road 404 made quite a mess as the truck came to rest on its side and a load of logs were dumped from the trailer.

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INSIDE

Elba JV baseball
team celebrates
win



INSIDE

Elba teacher
receives
scholarship to
attend workshop



The Elba Clipper

Volume 111, Number 38

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, February 28, 2008

1 Section, 14 Pages

City to install sewer lines to Marilyn Street homeowners in West Elba

by Fern Cox, Publisher

Mayor James Grimes and several members of the Elba City Council met with residents of Marilyn Street Monday evening to explain plans to install sewer service in the area. The sewer extension will impact ten homes and one non-residential building in Marilyn, which is located on Highway 166, across from the Elba schools.

Grimes explained that the city has twice applied for grant funds to install the sewage, but was denied funding each time. He said the reasons given were that the cost was too high for the number of homes being served (cost/benefit ratio). Therefore

city officials did a study to see if the work could be done with city employees because the sewage problems in that area continue to cause problems for residents.

Grimes said following the study department heads for the street department and Light and Water Board agreed they can do the work in house.

Doing the work this way will take a couple of months, Grimes said because these employees will still have to handle routine

To be held in Enterprise

U.S. Senator Richard Shelby announces date of county visit

U.S. Senator Richard Shelby (R-Ala.) will join the residents of Coffee County for a county visit on Saturday, March 8, at 8 a.m. The county visit, which is open to the public, will take place at Curtis Restaurant, located at 417 E. Lee Street in Enterprise, Ala.

Senator Shelby will address the legislative agenda for the second session of 110th Congress as well as important issues facing the nation and the

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Please See CITY, Page 14

Elba producer appointed to Cattlemen's Beef Board

The U.S. Secretary of Agriculture recently appointed Alabama beef producer Max Bozeman to a three-year term on the Cattlemen's Beef Promotion & Research Board, which oversees administration of the national Beef Checkoff Program.

Bozeman took the oath of office and was seated during the Cattlemen's Beef Board meeting at the 2008 Cattle Industry Convention in Reno on Saturday, Feb. 9, becoming one of 104 producers and importers nationwide representing all cattlemen by making recommendations about how to invest beef checkoff dollars.

A cow-calf producer from Elba, Bozeman was nominated to the Beef Board by the Alabama Cattlemen's Association, for which he has served as president, vice president, president-elect and regional vice president. He grew up on a family farm in Crenshaw County and, after earning his bachelor's degree from Troy State University in 1975, bought a farm in Coffee County.

Bozeman started in the cattle business in 1979 and now owns 300 head of cattle, including 160 commercial cows. He operates a diversified farm, also raising corn for silage and producing hay.

In efforts to serve the cattle



Max Bozeman

industry and his community, he has also served as president and a longtime director of the Coffee County Cattlemen's Association, as well as the Alabama Farmers Federation state beef committee, chairman of the Coffee County bull sale committee, and a member of the county extension council. He and his wife, Kathy, who is a registered nurse, Steve and Charles. The mission of the Cattlemen's Beef Board is to build demand for beef through promotion, research and information programs of the national

jobs and emergencies. The project will involve 8 inch sewer pipe, one lift station and two smaller force-feed pumps which can handle the volume from two houses each.

The first step will be installing the lift station, then moving up the street adding one house at a time.

Homeowners will be required to pay the standard \$400 sewer tapping fee and city crews will connect the line to their existing sewage outflow lines.

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BRAINSTORMS

with Ferrin Cox

On Monday the Coffee County Commissioners turned down (with out a discussion or a vote) ERHE heart defibrillators for each of the senior citizens centers! Many schools, restaurants, etc. all across America where groups gather are buying these and training someone to use them in a heart related emergency. Elba Police Chief Freddy Hanchey has secured a grant for all the \$2,000 units and offered them for the centers. All the county had to do was get two people at each center trained in its use. The stated reason for the decline was, well the public reason was "Our center managers" might get sued. They seem to forget Alabama law approves of private citizens helping in such emergencies and makes such lawsuits almost impossible to win. Of course we don't know the real reason for sure because it was not discussed in an open meeting, apparently being settled in one of their infamous workshops (which by the way, such a decision at workshops is illegal). Now, by not accepting them someone might die from a heart attack on county property, at a county supported function. Wonder what lawyer will file the suit against the county for causing a death by being unprepared when the units were available and free? We also wonder how they justify the concern for a possible law suit when they just last month approved a helicopter for the sheriff's department and will count the added lawsuit liability of owning and operating an aircraft (which is NOT covered by the Alabama Good Samaritan Act).

Montgomery Mayor Bobby Bright has thrown his hat in the ring to replace retiring U.S. Representative Terry Everett. The rumor had been floating around for some time that he was looking strongly at making the race. Bright ended the speculation of "if and when" party last week when he acknowledged an announcement would be made in Ozark this week. Bright grew up on a farm near Ozark. He also took the Democrat side where a win would counter some 44 years of Republicans holding the seat from the 2nd Congressional District. Bill Dickinson won the seat in 1964 and held it until retirement and Everett has been in the office since then. The 2nd District coverage area has changed several times in those years, and will probably change again after the 2010 census but Coffee County will more than likely remain in the district. Our prediction is that Bobby Bright will be the person to beat in this race if he doesn't stumble.

We were in Montgomery several days last week and were staying just across the street from the new fancy RSA hotel where they held the Music Hall of Fame event on Friday evening. That is one fancy, top notch facility and got ample exposure with this event. When we drove back to our hotel with our darling wife about 10:30 p.m., there was not a parking place to be found. Those music lovers had filled up every parking space available, even on "our side". This indicates that RSA folks already need more parking lot to accommodate their guests and the facility has only been open a week!

Robins are everywhere in our yard lately. Learned friends always correct our comments about the robins migrating, etc., so we will simply explain that dozens of those robins who never migrate have suddenly decided to search for worms in our grass. Most of the year we rarely see one of these beautiful birds on our property.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, February 18, 2008, investigated the following incidents: five for domestic violence, two for found property, one for harassing communications, one for identity theft, two for assault, one for possession of marijuana, one for possession of drug paraphernalia, one for driving under the influence, one for cruelty to animals, one for property damage from a storm, one for disorderly conduct, two for criminal mischief, one for burglary, one for robbery, two for harassment, two for theft of property and one for a gas drive-off.

The following arrests were made: one for possession of marijuana, one for possession of drug paraphernalia, one for driving under the influence, one for burglary and one for disorderly conduct.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: eleven for violation of the seat belt law, three for a revoked driver's license, two for no insurance, two for no proof of insurance, one for no muffler, one for an improper muffler, four for speeding, one for a suspended driver's license and one for an expired tag.

Daily activity highlights were as follows:

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18 - One-vehicle wreck reported on County Rd. 404 (2:11 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to the wreck on County Rd. 404 (2:11 p.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to the wreck.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19 - One-vehicle wreck reported on Old Samson Road (5:57 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a wreck at Hwy. 167 and County Rd. 201 (2:51 p.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to a vehicle fire on Hwy. 166 (4:41 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 823 Roosevelt (7:27 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported on Hickman Ave. on the bridge (9:47 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1404 Reese Ave. (11:59 a.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to a wreck on County Rd. 359 (5:26 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to the wreck on County Rd. 359 (5:28 p.m.).

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 831 E. Davis St. (3:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1294 County Rd. 325 (7:11 p.m.); Disturbance (noise) reported in the area of Jones Circle and Jackson St. (9:51 p.m.).

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22 - Possible domestic disturbance reported at 716 Simmons St. (1:47 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a wreck on County Rd. 306 (8:55 a.m.); Wreck reported near the Shell Station (4:02 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1172 County Rd. 201 (11:44 p.m.).

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23 - Elba Fire Department dispatched to a wreck on County Rd. 404 (2:11 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to the wreck on County Rd. 404 (2:11 p.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to the wreck.

EDITORIAL

Preparing for a tornado (Editorial by U.S. Senator Richard Shelby)

Though tornadoes are generally uncommon during the winter months, hundreds of Alabamians have already felt the effects of these devastating storms this year. While we cannot predict where or when a tornado or other natural disaster will strike, we can prepare for the possibility one may occur. The safety of you and your loved ones is of the utmost importance, and for that reason, I would like to share with you some brief information on basic tornado preparedness that may help save lives and reduce property damage.

The most critical component of a tornado preparedness is developing a comprehensive plan to follow in the event that a tornado strikes your area. It is important to become aware of your community's warning signals for severe weather and its specific evacuation plans. Each community may have a different way of providing warnings and it should be incorporated into your family's disaster preparedness. As you develop a plan, discussing it ahead of time with your family helps reduce fear and lets everyone know how to respond during a tornado. The two most important factors to consider is the designation of a safe meeting place and what to include within your emergency supply kit.

If a tornado is headed your way, the safest place to be is underground, or as low to the ground as possible, and away from all windows. If possible, your family should gather in an uncluttered basement. If your home does not have a basement, you should seek shelter in a central hallway, bathroom or closet on the lowest floor of your home, away from windows. If you are in a high-rise building and are unable to get to the lowest floor, seek shelter in a hallway located in the center of your building. The key is to put as many walls as possible between you and the outside. Should you find yourself in a mobile home or vehicle during a tornado, it is critical that you get out and seek shelter. If you are in a vehicle, do not attempt to drive through a ditch or low spot and cover your head with your hands. Remain cautious of flying debris that can cause serious injury.

Assembling the supplies you may need after a tornado has struck is a critical part of your disaster plan. Your emergency supply kit should be located in a safe and easily accessible place and should include first aid kit and essential medications, as well as important items for infants or elderly persons, canned food items and a can opener, at least three gallons of water per person per day, and a battery-powered portable radio and a weather radio, flashlight and extra batteries. Remember to replace the food and water every six months so that it remains safe to consume during an emergency. Warm clothing and sleeping bags for the members of your family is also suggested. In addition, it may be useful to include written instructions on how to turn off electricity, gas and water, if authorities advise you to do so.

To be fully prepared, it is important that you and your family members practice the plan by conducting tornado drills. You should also take the time to test your smoke detectors monthly and change the batteries to your radios and

flashlights two times a year. However, being fully prepared for the start of a tornado is only the beginning. If the weather outside looks ominous, tune into your local radio and TV stations for updated storm information so that you will know when to seek shelter or take other action. A Tornado Watch is issued when current weather conditions are favorable for producing tornadoes and does not mean that a tornado is actually occurring. You should turn on and listen to your local radio or station and pay close attention to changing weather conditions. It is possible that you will see flying debris caused by high winds or that you will hear the sound of an approaching tornado.

A Tornado Warning is issued when a tornado has been spotted on the ground or a funnel cloud has been spotted in the sky. If a Tornado Warning is issued, there is immediate danger from either the tornado itself, or from the severe thunderstorm producing it. This warning should trigger your family's disaster plan and you should seek shelter immediately. After the tornado passes, be sure to watch out for fallen power lines and stay out of damaged areas.

In light of the recent tornadoes in Alabama, I encourage all Alabamians to heed the advice of the NOAA's National Weather Service, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the American Red Cross and develop an emergency plan to ensure that we are organized and ready for whatever threatening weather Mother Nature sends our way. I hope you have found this information useful as you work to develop your own tornado plan. For more information, please visit www.fema.gov or www.redcross.org or <http://www.redcross.org>.

NOTICE

The 16th annual Coffee County Relay for Life will be Friday, May 16, on the track at Enterprise-Ozark Community College. To sign up to participate or to volunteer with Coffee County Relay for Life call Stephanie McIntosh in the evening at 897-3934 or Linda Anders during the day at 347-3411 ext. 212.

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ROCC evolves in Coffee County

The Recovery Organization of Coffee County (ROCC) was formed following the March 1 tornado in Enterprise. ROCC was made up of faith-based organizations, social service agencies and concerned individuals with one common goal: to assist individuals affected by the tornado with their unmet storm related needs.

The work of ROCC was accomplished by gathering volunteers, materials, resources, and monetary donations to meet the needs of those who were affected. ROCC used damage information collected immediately after the storm by the American Red Cross Disaster Assessment Team and door-to-door surveys to gather as much accurate data as possible. This information was immediately passed on to other agencies to assist those agencies in delivering fast, accurate services. Member agencies supplied immediate emergency assistance for the first 30 days after the disaster.

On April 1, 2007, a location was established for ROCC at VOA D group (Volunteer Organization, Assisting in Disaster). The Volunteer Organization Assisting in Disaster has applied for 501(c) 3 tax-exemption status. Representatives from Enterprise, Elba, Kinston and New Brockton are working together to form a countywide organized plan for the recovery process before the next disaster.

The ROCC is a shining example of how the community, partnering agencies and local volunteers can work together to make recovery possible in times of disaster. Now is the time to plan for the future by supporting the countywide VOA D. All groups, organizations, churches, agencies or individuals are invited to become active members of the Recovery Organization of Coffee County. For more information contact Hugh Weeks at 565-3129 or Mindy Collier at 393-1072.

ROCC's caseworkers and consumer advocate assisted clients in applying for insurance benefits, FEMA grants, as well as a variety of unmet needs specific to each client's situation. Verified unmet needs such as household items and home repair were then presented by the caseworkers to the ROCC for monetary disbursements which were paid to the provider of those goods or services. Assistance was provided based on each individual family's needs.

Volunteer hours provided by ROCC caseworkers and their consumer advocate totaled 8,276 hours. An estimated monetary amount based on a pay scale of \$10 an hour would amount to a staggering \$82,760. FEMA provided assistance to 1,383 homes in Coffee County for a total of \$109,496.

ROCC announces that a large portion of funds donated directly to ROCC are being used to sponsor two homes to be built by Habitat for Humanity. Groundbreaking for these homes will be Sunday, March 2, 2008.

ROCC has evolved from an unmet needs committee for a single disaster to a permanent VOA D group (Volunteer Organization, Assisting in Disaster). The Volunteer Organization Assisting in Disaster has applied for 501(c) 3 tax-exemption status.

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Obituaries

Obits updated regularly on our website at www.elba-clipper.com

NEWTON FENTON BRYAN
Mr. Newton Fenton Bryan, age 75, of Elba, Ala., died Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2008, at Southeast Alabama Medical Center in Dothan, Ala.

Funeral services were held Feb. 21, 2008 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral in Elba with Reverend Donnie Marler officiating. Burial followed in the Evergreen Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include a son: Michael Watson Bryan, Panama City, Fla.; two daughters, Kellie Kay Bryan (husband Doug) Evans and Debra Bryan (husband Shelton) Dunn, both of Tallapoosa, Ala.; six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 305 University Drive Suite 1, Valdosta, Ga. 31602.

Survivors include a son: Michael Watson Bryan, Panama City, Fla.; two daughters, Kellie Kay Bryan (husband Doug) Evans and Debra Bryan (husband Shelton) Dunn, both of Tallapoosa, Ala.; six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at the Zion Chapel Baptist Church on Thursday, Feb. 28, 2008, beginning at 11 a.m. with Rev. Jim Talley officiating. Burial will follow in the Zion Chapel Baptist Church Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home of Elba directing. Visitation was held at Hayes Funeral Home on Wednesday evening, Feb. 27, from 6-8 p.m.

Survivors include her husband: Charles L. Smith, Forest Park, Ga.; one daughter, Patricia (husband Danny) Thomason, Holly Springs, Ga.; one son: Charles Randy Smith, Forest Park, Ga.; two sisters: Magaline Stephens, Jack, Ala.; Ehlene Davis, Forest Park, Ga.; three grandsons: Jason Thomason, Woodstock, Ga.; Josh Thomason, Smyrna, Ga.; Benjamin Smith, California; one great-grandson: Davis Thomason, Woodstock, Ga.; two great-granddaughters: Callie Thomason, Woodstock, Ga.; and Reagan Thomason, Smyrna, Ga.

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SPORTS

Views from....

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

The girls came home over the weekend to wash clothes and get a little extra spending money, and while they were here we got the chance to walk the levee on three different occasions. I'll admit the first lap around town was enjoyable and the second was okay, but by the time we headed to the levee the third time I felt like I was just about walked out. Oh yea, the levee is still in good shape and ready for more rain.

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH....

*** Last week's rainy weather played havoc with the opening week of baseball and softball for the teams from Elba High, as the JV girls got in one game and the JV boys got in three games at a tournament in Brantley. The girls played in Goshen due to the incomplete construction on their home field and squeaked out a win, while the boys had to play three straight games over a six hour span and posted one win and two losses. The varsity squads got rained out, but have games on tap this week and maybe they will get to hit the field and open the season.

*** Area teams did get in some action last week around the rain-drops as Zion Chapel swept Pike County in baseball and lost a pair of softball games to Headland and Arifton, while New Brockton rallied past Samson in baseball and Kinston stumbled in a softball tournament in Dothan. It looks like area baseball and softball fans might have an exciting season ahead.

*** The South Region Basketball Tournament was held last week at Troy University and teams from this corner of the state didn't fare all that well. Samson's girls did make it out and will be looking for a third straight state title this week in Birmingham, while Eufaula's boys and girls both won region crowns and punched their ticket to the Final Four. Babour County's boys and Geneva's girls also earned the right to play at the state tournament, and maybe some of the teams will bring home the big blue trophy that goes to the state champs.

*** Brantley's Lady Bulldogs lost in the opening round of the region tournament to J.F. Shields and closed the season with a 30-2 record. Both of their losses came to J.F. Shields, which had a very good team, and even though the girls wanted to bring home a state title, to win 30 games in one season is quite a feat and one that a loss cannot tarnish. It was a great season and the girls and fans will never forget.

*** In closing... Elba will send three All-Star teams to compete in district play in the Alabama Recreation and Parks Association tournaments next weekend, and even though Elba will be the smallest city competing in the events, there is no doubt the All-Stars will play hard and represent the city well. Teams will compete in 8 and Under Boys, 10 and Under Boys and 12 and Under Boys divisions, and all should be very competitive. I'll pass along the tourney sites and game times next week so that everyone can go and support these youngsters.

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CELEBRATE WIN... Members of the Elba JV Tiger baseball team charge out of the dugout after a late rally gave the Tigers an 8-7 win over Arifton in last weekend's Brantley baseball tournament. The Tigers posted a 1-2 record in the annual junior varsity tournament.

(Photo by Mike Capps)

In Brantley tournament

Elba JV Tigers win one and lose two

The Elba JV Tigers competed in the Brantley Bulldog Baseball Classic last weekend and posted one win in three games in the double-elimination event.

The Tigers opened play

Brantley Lady Bulldogs make early exit at South Region

The Brantley Lady Bulldogs saw their road to the Final Four hit a dead-end last Tuesday night in the opening round of the South Region High School Basketball Tournament as they were eliminated by the J.F. Shields Lady Panthers 68-33 in opening round action at Troy University.

Brantley couldn't buy a basket early in the opening stanza and watched as J.F. Shields took command almost from the opening tip in opening up an early 15-0 advantage. A jumper by the Lady Bulldogs' Eisha Person finally got Brantley on the scoreboard and cut the deficit to 15-2, and the basket seemed to pump life into the Lady Bulldogs as Taronda Randall and Caroline Allen sparked a 10-0 run that enabled Brantley

to pull within 15-10. The Lady Panthers scored the final four points of the quarter to extend their lead to 19-10, then added a basket early in the second quarter as their lead grew to 21-10 with 7:16 remaining in the half. Brantley's DeAnza Sheridan scored on a short jumper with 7:04 left on the clock to pull the Lady Bulldogs back within 21-12. However, J.F. Shields outscored the Lady Bulldogs 5-1 over the next two minutes and regained command by taking a 26-13 advantage. Brantley began to settle into its offense late in the quarter and behind the shooting of Taronda Randall, DeAnza Sheridan and Caroline Allen matched baskets with J.F. Shields and still trailed by 13 points at 35-22 with 1:37 left on the clock. The Lady Panthers closed the half with an 8-2 run to regain command, and went in at intermission with a big 43-25 lead.

Brantley's Taronda Randall scored on a short jumper with 5:40 remaining in the third quarter to pull the Lady Bulldogs to within 45-27, but Brantley failed to score again for the remainder of the quarter and J.F. Shields took advantage of Brantley's shooting woes to carry a 50-27 lead into the final stanza. The Lady Bulldogs continued their offensive struggles in the fourth quarter and went over seven minutes without scoring a point as J.F. Shields ran away and opened up a 68-27 lead. Brantley's Melissa Walker hit a free throw with :52 remaining to snap the long scoring drought and drained a three-pointer with :08 remaining. However, it was way too little, way too late, as the Lady Bulldogs closed the season with the 68-33 loss.

Taronda Randall scored 10 points and grabbed 6 rebounds to lead Brantley, while DeAnza Sheridan added 8 points and Eisha Person, Caroline Allen and Melissa Walker all added 5.

J.F. Shields (68): Montgomery 18, Robinson 27, Williams 8, Lyons 8, Rogers 4, Wiggins 2, Huff 1.

Brantley (33): Sheridan 8, Person 5, Allen 5, Randall 10, Walker 5.

against Arifton and squeaked out an 8-7 win, in six innings. Elba trailed 5-0 early in the game, but pulled even at 5-5 in the fifth and then pulled out the win in the sixth. Dylan Seay was the winning pitcher for the Tigers.

The Tigers turned around in the very next game of the tournament and dropped a 7-0 decision to Kinston. Sandarius Reed was tagged with the loss on the mound, while Chase Sauls and Ryan Marler both had 1 hit to lead Elba at the plate.

The Tigers were forced to play Highland Home in their third straight game on Saturday

afternoon and ran out of gas in an 8-7 loss. Elba led for much of the game and appeared in command, but allowed Highland Home to pull even late and then took the loss on a wild pitch in the sixth inning. Dylan Seay was the losing pitcher for the Tigers, while at the plate Elba was led by Sandarius Reed and Dylan McCollough with a single and a double, Hayes Spicer with 2 singles and JonAshley Amison with 1 hit.



BRANTLEY BLOCK PARTY... Brantley Lady Bulldog Taronda Randall (32) goes high to block a shot in recent high school basketball action. Randall was named to the All-Tournament team at the South Region last week after scoring 10 points and pulling down 6 rebounds in the Lady Bulldogs' loss to J.F. Shields. Also pictured are Lady Bulldogs Shakella Salter (33) and Caroline Allen (11).

(Photo by Mike Capps)

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SPORTS

Elba youth basketball season draws to a close

The Elba Youth Basketball League closed its season last week with plenty of action in all the games.

Following are results of recent games:

8 and Under Boys

* The Elba Black led all the way to outscore the Elba White 14-5. Scoring for the Elba Black were Grant Akridge 6, Omar Whitfield 4, Isaiah Kyles 2 and Talon Flowers 2. Scoring for the Elba White were Jeremiah Jordan 3 and Braxton Robinson 2.

* The Elba White pulled away late to sneak past the Elba Black 17-14. Scoring for the Elba White were Omar Whitfield 6, Nicholas Johnson 4 and Grant Akridge 4. Scoring for the Elba Black were Jeremiah Jordan 8, Braxton Robinson 2, Cedric Benton 2 and Kendre Jordan 2.

10 and Under Boys

* The Elba Black pulled ahead early and held on late to claim a 25-19 win over the Elba White. Scoring for the Elba Black were Brosnan Cook 10, Martavious Gray 6, ReYanta Singletary 3, Savion Edwards 2 and Austin 2. Scoring for the Elba White were Keshawne 8, Keshon 6 and Dontavious Williams 5.

* The Elba White led all the way to defeat the Elba Black 41-15. Scoring for the Elba White were Martavious Gray 19, Brosnan Cook 4, Jordan 4, R. Caldwell 4, Kendre Jordan 2, Gavin Caldwell 2, Monta King 2 and Washington 2.

8 and Under Co-Ed

* The Elba White pulled ahead early and survived a late rally to sneak past the Elba Black 10-8. Scoring for the Elba White were Richmond Singletary 6, Laken Cook 6, Willow Johnson 2, J. Blackmon 2 and M. Nolin 2. Scoring for the Elba Black were Amaysia Whitfield 4, Omari Stouemire 4, Sebastian Thomas 2 and Jayma 2.

* The Elba White jumped ahead early and rolled to an 18-12 win over the Elba Black. Scoring for the Elba White were Richmond Singletary 6, Laken Cook 6, Willow Johnson 2, J. Blackmon 2 and M. Nolin 2. Scoring for the Elba Black were Amaysia Whitfield 4, Omari Stouemire 4, Sebastian Thomas 2 and Jayma 2.

12 and Under Co-Ed

* The Elba Black staged a furious fourth quarter rally to down the Elba White 47-42. Scoring for the Elba Black were Harry Griffin 13, Denzell Cole 9, Nick Green 7, Cobe Goosby 7, Caleb Martin Sand Raheem Newson 3. Scoring for the Elba White were Griffin Martin 15, Darraan Burks 14, Kysen Edwards 4, Shae Sams 2, K. Brown 2, K. Maryland 2, A. Hutchinson 2 and K. Williams 1.

* The Elba Black led all the way to down the Elba White 37-27. Scoring for the Elba Black were Darraan Burks 10, Kysen Edwards 6, A. Hutchinson 5, K. Williams 4, Shae Sams 4, Griffin Martin 2 and Logan Bailey 2. Scoring for the Elba White were Cobe Goosby 10, Sage Johnson 8, Caleb Martin 4, Denzell Cook 3 and Reality Singletary 2.



Shane Marler of Enterprise killed this 150 pound 10-point buck on January 31. Shane is the son of Melanie Crooks and Doug Marler of Enterprise.

High School
DIAMOND DUST

* Baseball *

New Brockton rallies past Samson 6-5

The New Brockton Gamecocks rallied from a 5-0 fifth inning deficit to sneak past the Samson Tigers 6-5, last Tuesday afternoon in New Brockton. Nick Stephenson ripped a pinch-hit single in the bottom of the seventh inning to drive in Hayden Smith with the winning run as the Gamecocks capped a 3-run rally in their final at-bat to claim the exciting win. Hayden Smith had 2 hits, both doubles, and collected 2 rbi's to lead the Gamecocks at the plate, while Shane Adkinson added 2 hits and knocked in 3 runs. Joseph Thornton had 2 hits to lead the Tigers.

Zion Chapel sweeps past Pike County

The Zion Chapel Rebels hit the field Saturday for a double-header against the Pike County Bulldogs and made the most of the opportunity as they swept past the Bulldogs 15-2 and 6-4. Zach Stevens pitched a 4-hitter and struck out 7 batters to get the win in the opener, while at the plate Harry White ripped a grand-slam home-run and Joe Davis, Chase Perkins and Zach Stevens all added 2 hits. Joe Davis was the winning pitcher in relief in the second game, while at the plate the Rebels were led by Matt Brunson, Casey Grantham, Kendall Chappell and Harry White with one hit, apiece.

* Softball *

Zion Chapel tripped up by Arifton 9-3

The Zion Chapel Lady Rebels battled for seven innings last Tuesday afternoon in a 9-3 loss to the Arifton Lady Cats. Lexi Phillips hit a 3-run homer and struck out 14 batters to lead Arifton to the win, while Jenna Watson and Ciara Baker both added 3 hits. In JV action, Samantha Bell and Nicole McInerney both had 2 hits to lead Arifton to a wild 10-9 win over Zion Chapel.



Photos by Mike Capps

Rattler Weekend is set for
February 29 - March 2 at
South Alabama Speedway

South Alabama Speedway is set to open the 2008 racing season February 29 - March 2 with the 32nd Annual Rattler Weekend. Late Model drivers from across the nation will be headed to the Kinston oval to battle for the top prize in two Late Model races. The weekend is headlined by Sunday's 32nd Annual Rattler 250 Super Late Model race, which has drawn entries from ten states, including Colorado, Illinois, Oklahoma, and Texas. Birmingham's Augie Grill is the defending race champion and will be on hand to defend his title.

Other drivers expected include the track's Super Late Model Viper Series Champion Casey Smith from Austin, Texas. Smith won all four Viper Series races in 2007. Michael Pope, the Pro Late Model Viper Series Champion will be moving up to the Super Late Model class for this year's Rattler. Jeff Choquette dominated Florida's Speedweek a couple of weeks ago, and will be attempting to make his first start at South Alabama. Four past Rattler winners - Ryan Crane, Jason Hogan, Johnny Brazier, and Dave Mader III - are also expected. As of February 23, more than 40 Super Late Model drivers had either sent in paid entries or given a verbal commitment to be at South Alabama for the weekend.

Saturday night's Pro Late Model Rattler 125 would be a headline event anywhere else. Close to 50 drivers had given

their commitment as of February 23. Top drivers for Saturday's race include last year's winter Ronnie Sanders. Sanders has also won the Super Late Model Rattler three times. South Alabama favorite DuWayne Middlebrooks, David Hodges, Steven Davis, David Hole, Ryan Crane, Andy Pugh, and others should provide Sanders with plenty of competition.

The spotlight is on the locals Friday night with 50 - lap features scheduled for the Super Stock, Vintage, and Roadrunner classes. Also on the night's schedule are features for the Coyote and Mini Sportsman classes. In addition to the Pro Late Model Rattler, 125, Saturday's schedule includes 50 - lap features for the Modified and Street Stock classes and a 25 - lap CupLate Feature. Grandstands open at 5:00 on Friday with Super Late Model qualifying at 7:00. Racing will begin at 8:00. Saturday, the grandstands will open at 2:00 with Pro Late Model qualifying at 3:30. Racing will begin at 7:00. The grandstands will open at 10:00 Sunday morning. Brother Eddie Barton will have a church service at 10:30. The Rattler 250 will roll off at 2:00. For more information, contact the track at (334) 565-3539, or visit the track's web site at www.southalabamasppeedway.com/

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High School
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SCHEDULES

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28

* Baseball *
Elba at Kinston (DH) 4:00

* Softball *
Elba at Samson (4:00) JV-V
Dothan at Kinston JV (DH) 4:00

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29

* Baseball *
Elba JV, at Arifton Tournament

* Softball *
Elba JV, in Luverne Tournament
Kinston, in Troy Tournament

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

* Baseball *
Luverne at Elba (11:00)
Elba JV, at Arifton Tournament

* Softball *
Elba JV, in Luverne Tournament
Kinston, in Troy Tournament

MONDAY, MARCH 3

* Baseball *
Straughn at Elba JV (DH) 4:00

* Softball *
Zion Chapel JV at Headland (4:30)

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

* Softball *
Zion Chapel JV at New Brockton (DH) 4:30

COMMUNITY NEWS

Elba High School teacher wins scholarship to attend workshop

Only two scholarships to attend the Alabama Studio Style Weekend Workshop, worth \$1,200, recently were awarded, and Elba High School Family and Consumer Sciences teacher Christina Whitlock was one of the scholarship recipients.

Whitlock will attend the Alabama Studio Style Weekend Workshop with Natalie Channin and Angie Mosier in Tusculum, Ala. March 7-9. Christina Whitlock has been teaching Family and Consumer Sciences at Elba High School for the past 3 1/2 years.

The weekend workshop will consist of a workshop titled "Secrets and Standards of Southern Food and Hospitality" with Angie Mosier, which includes a Southern food history primer and seasonal menu plan-



Christina Whitlock

ning along with cooking instruction and ideas for setting a beautiful Southern table. Participants will learn techniques involved in making some

of the South's iconic foods like biscuits, fried chicken and layer cakes. Mysterious recipes like pimento cheese, chow chow and pot likker will be explored and de-mystified.

Setting a Southern table and serving food family-style will be the finale as the Stutch workshop participants join in, and the cooks turn out a meal for all to enjoy together.

Angie Mosier has been baking cakes and cooking Southern food since she was a small child and continued to bake for friends and family as a hobby until she turned her talent into a full time job in 1991. Since then, her cakes and pastries have been photographed and featured in Food and Wine, Veranda, Town and Country and Elegant Bride magazines as well as many books on entertaining. These photo sessions led Mosier to her current career as a food stylist for print and film.

In addition to offering private and public cooking classes, Mosier has also recently worked as a spokesperson for Wedgwood China, Waterford Crystal and All Clad Cookware.

Enterprise-Ozark Community College was awarded \$1.4 million from the bond issue passed last session. The \$200,000 grant is additional money.

"The money will be used to improve facilities at Enterprise-Ozark Community College, with an emphasis on safety and structure," said Spicer. "All students, including Enterprise High School faculty and students, will benefit from these improvements."

The grants will fund two projects. \$100,000 will be used for parking lot paving and lighting, and \$100,000 will be used to replace bleachers in the gymnasium.

The Alabama House of Representatives convened again this week on Tuesday Feb. 26, to continue the 2008 Regular Session.

Rep. Terry Spicer announces funds for Enterprise-Ozark Community College

Representative Terry Spicer (D-Elba) announced last week that Enterprise-Ozark Community College will receive \$200,000 in additional funds.

The Alabama Public School and College Incentive Fund will distribute the grants. The Fund was established as part of a bond issue passed by the Legislature last session for projects in schools, community colleges, universities, and public libraries.

"We worked hard to make sure that our schools got their fair share," Spicer said. "This was a cooperative effort by

C.C. Sheriff Dave Sutton speaks at RWCC meeting

During a recent meeting of the Republican Women of Coffee County (RWCC), Sheriff Dave Sutton gave the annual report of the activities of the Sheriff's Department. He also discussed his goals for the continued improvements in the department and the county jail. For information about the RWCC, call 347-0511.

Hospice volunteer training program set for March 8th

First Choice Hospice Volunteer Training Program will be held March 8, 2008 from 8:30 - 1 p.m. at Covenant Community Church located at 2667 Hickman Avenue, Elba, Ala. 36323. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Hospice is a specialized field of healthcare, caring for patients with life-limiting illnesses and providing support to their families as well as their own communities. Volunteers are a vital part of hospice. Whether providing companionship to patients and families or assisting with office projects, volunteers can have a positive affect of those in need.

For more information or to register call 897-0650.

Don't Forget to recycle

Elba Elementary School Menu

March 3-7, 2008

BREAKFAST	LUNCH
Monday - Cinnamon Bun, Cheese, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Monday - Nachos, Corn on Cob, Black-eyed Peas, Birthday Cake, Milk
Tuesday - Waffles w/Syrup, Link Sausage, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Tuesday - Chicken Sandwich, New Potatoes, Peas & Carrots, Sliced Peaches, Milk
Wednesday - Cinnamon Toast, Cheese, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Wednesday - Vegetable Beef Soup, Cheese Sandwich, Crackers, Apple, Milk
Thursday - Biscuit w/Jelly, Sausage Patty, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Thursday - Hoagie, Oven Fries, Lettuce, Tomato, Dill Pickles, Sliced Peas, Milk
Friday - Cheese Grits, Toast & Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Friday - Lasagna, Green Salad, Buttered Carrots, Garlic Toast, Orange, Milk

Ellis Paul and Antje Duvekot in Concert at Just Folk Coffeehouse

Friday, March 7, 2008 - 7:00 PM



Ellis Paul



Antje Duvekot

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Portrait unveiled at local bank in memory of the late Drexel Cook

The Peoples Bank of Coffee County honored the memory of the late Drexel Cook last Thursday morning, Feb. 21, when a portrait of Cook was unveiled.

The portrait is now displayed in the lobby of the bank in Elba, Ala. The Peoples Bank was organized and opened for business in May, 1964, and Drexel Cook was one of several local businessmen in Elba who felt the need for the bank. The original organizers included: Lamar Rainer, Jr., Drexel Cook, Walter Cox, Dr. Jim Clay, Dr. John Kinney, Kimmey Dorsey, Dr. Phillip J. Hamm, Sam Sawyer, Boyd Murphree, Doug Easters and Jim Blair.

While also operating other businesses throughout his career, Cook remained very active in whatever capacity he filled at the Peoples Bank. He served as president from 1992-1997, and remained an active member of the board of directors until his death last year.

The Peoples Bank became The Peoples Bank of Coffee County under Cook's leadership in 1995 after the county branches were purchased by Henderson BankShares of Troy.

Last Thursday morning as the portrait of Drexel Cook was unveiled at The Peoples Bank of Coffee County in Elba, Sherrill Crowe, chairman of Henderson BankShares, said he thought it was appropriate to place the portrait in the bank's lobby. He said Cook was a well-known, respected man and having the portrait displayed in the bank will allow today's young people to know him as well.

"One thing about Drexel is that he knew people," Crowe said. "He put the right people in the right places."

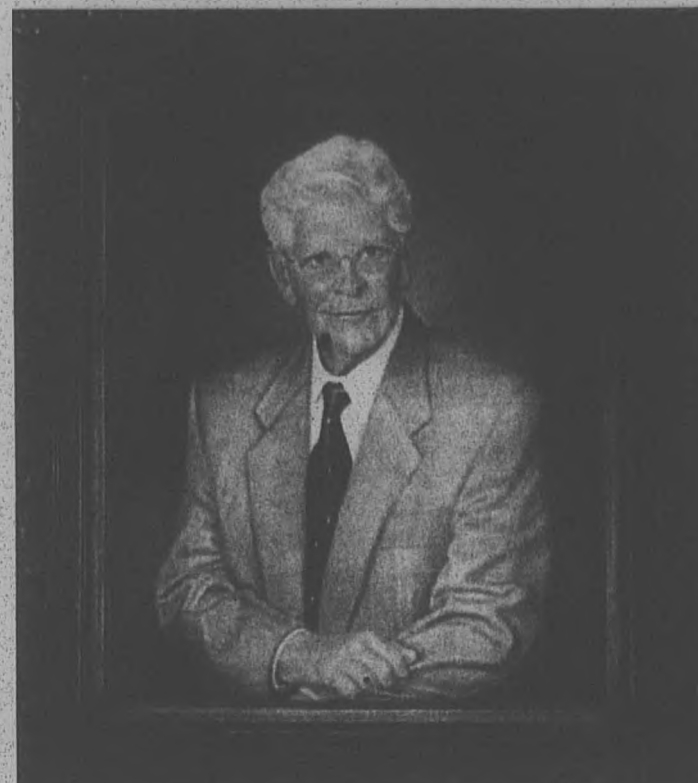
Crowe said he was a tough businessman, but he also had a soft spot for his family and friends.

"He meant a lot to this bank, and he meant a lot to the community," said Crowe.

Drexel Cook passed away July 10, 2007. He was 84.



Several family members of the late Drexel Cook were present last Thursday morning, Feb. 21, for the unveiling of Cook's portrait at The Peoples Bank of Coffee County in Elba. Family members present included (from left): J.D. Cook III, Gary Guthrie, Carla Guthrie, Nell Cook, Jimmy Cook, Christina and Tom Anderson holding their sons John Treutlen Anderson and Bennett Cook Anderson.



This portrait of Drexel Cook, taken by Cara English of English Photography, now hangs in the lobby of The Peoples Bank of Coffee County in Elba. It serves as a reminder of Cook's everlasting importance to the bank and community.



L.C. Cook of Elba entered the Backyard Barbecue Cookoff held at Fort Rucker on Saturday, Feb. 23. Cooks at the competition were allowed to compete in four categories including chicken, pork, ribs, and brisket. When the results were in Cook had won 1st place in brisket and 3rd place in pork. He placed 3rd overall in the competition while competing against 21 other teams in attendance. Cook said he missed the top prize by only 22 points. He added that he was very proud he won the brisket category.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Forensic Nursing Seminar offered at EOCC

The Enterprise campus of Enterprise-Ozark Community College in cooperation with Diversified Nursing Services will be hosting a Nursing Seminar on Thursday, March 13, 2008 from 8:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. The title of the seminar is Forensic Nursing. All health care workers will benefit from this seminar. Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Registered Dietitians, and Nurses will receive 7.0 contact hours of continuing education credit. Nursing Home Administrators and Social Workers will receive 6.0 contact hours of continuing education credit.

The registration fee is \$70 for pre-registered participants and \$75 for those who register at the door.

Three arrested on drug charges in Coffee County

Deputies with the Coffee County Sheriff's Department responded Saturday, Feb. 23, at approximately 4:30 p.m. to a call at 200 County Road 308 in reference to suspicious persons at the residence.

According to information released this week by Chief Deputy R.W. Whitworth, the suspicious persons allegedly tried to flee the scene when deputies arrived; however, the officers were able to apprehend them. Whitworth said a search warrant was obtained, and a methamphetamine lab was located at the residence.

Three subjects were arrested. They included: Donald Troy Napper, age 39, of Brundidge, Ala.; Phillip David Black, age 43, of Glenwood, Ala.; and Heather Ann Paxton, age 35, of Troy, Ala.

Whitworth said the suspects each were charged with manufacturing – first degree, possession of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. They were placed in the Coffee County Jail.

CITY

(Continued from Page One)

asked council members and the news media to urge motorists to drive especially carefully on U. S. 84 West as construction work is underway in that area.

Councilman Mike McKee reported a number of pot holes on Smith Avenue which need fixing. He noted it was in the area from the bypass back to the dead end at intersection of Pea River/Whitewater Creek. He also reported a problem on Dr. Roberts Street.

Councilman Ronnie Hammond said lots of work was needed on Mulberry Street. City Clerk Grantham noted it might take a complete resurfacing to get that one back up to standards.

FUNDS

(Continued from Page One)

tion from the bond issue passed last session. Their grant from the Incentive Fund, totaling \$200,000, is additional money.

"The grant will fund two necessary improvement projects at Enterprise Ozark Community College, including replacement of bleachers in the gym and lighting and paving of the parking lot," said Spicer.

"It's always exciting to be able to provide funding for worthwhile projects, especially for our schools," said Spicer.

Classes will be held in the Multi-purpose room located in the Lurleen Wallace Student Center. For more information or to register, call (334) 347-2623, ext. 2236.

News Brief

At approximately 12:55 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 26, emergency personnel responded to a two-vehicle accident on Alabama Highway 87 in Pike County. One person was fatally injured in the accident and two people were injured.

Fatally injured was Nancy Goodson Andress, age 55, of Enterprise, Ala. She was traveling in a 2004 Dodge. Robert Michael Andress, age 55, of Enterprise, was also traveling in the 2004 Dodge and injured in the accident.

Also injured was Elba resident Kenneth Neil Grantham Jr., age 25. He was traveling in a 2004 Volvo.

According to information released by Alabama State Troopers, all three victims were transported to Troy Regional Medical Center from the accident scene. Grantham was later airlifted to a Montgomery hospital and was reportedly in surgery at press time on Tuesday evening.

The information also indicated that the victims were using seat belts and airbags did deploy.

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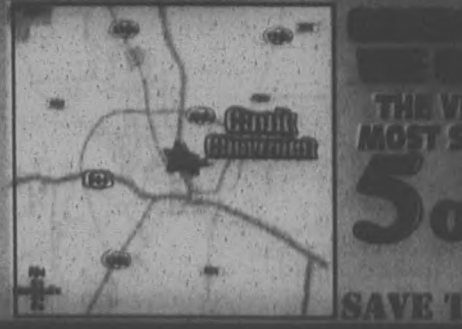
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